

09 544 321

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method 10 for acquiring material for use within a die and for determining whether a die has certain characteristics which would allow the die to have a relatively long operating life. The method 10 requires that a supplier of a die provide certain material which is analyzed to determine whether the supplied material has a certain toughness. If the material has the requisite toughness, a material signature is created and used to evaluate further materials and dies produced and/or provided by the supplier.

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